

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BROWN COUNTY
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Pursuant to Section 19.84 Wis. Stats., a regular meeting of the **Brown County Public Safety Committee** was held on Wednesday, June 1, 2016 at the Brown County Sheriff's Office, 2684 Development Drive, Green Bay, WI

Present: Chair Buckley, Supervisor Nicholson, Supervisor Evans, Supervisor Clancy, Supervisor Zima
Also Present: Michelle Conard, Justin Steinbrinck, Cullen Peltier, John Gossage, Matt Kriese, Chad Weininger, Barry Irmen, Dr. Vincent Tranchida

I. Call meeting to order.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Buckley at 11:00 am.

II. Approve/Modify Agenda.

Motion made by Supervisor Clancy, seconded by Supervisor Evans to approve. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

III. Approve/Modify Minutes of May 2, 2016.

Motion made by Supervisor Clancy, seconded by Supervisor Evans to approve. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Comments from the Public. None.

1. Review Minutes of:

- a. Local Emergency Planning Committee – LEPC (March 8, 2016 & May 10, 2016).
- b. Public Safety Communications Advisory Board (January 27, 2016).

Motion made by Supervisor Clancy, seconded by Supervisor Evans to suspend the rules and take Items 1 a & b together. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Motion made by Supervisor Clancy, seconded by Supervisor Nicholson to receive and place on file Items 1 a & b. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Emergency Management

2. Budget Status Financial Report for April 2016.

Motion made by Supervisor Nicholson, seconded by Supervisor Clancy to receive and place on file. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3. Discussion and possible action re: Request by the Town of Morrison for assistance in procuring a tornado siren. *Referred back to Public Safety.*

Supervisor Clancy indicated that nobody from the Town of Morrison could get off work to attend this meeting. Additionally, at their last Town meeting, Morrison said with their budget constraints they could not do anything to get a siren unless it was grant funded. Clancy would like to see some sort of warning system out there so that portion of the County gets coverage. He thought the cost would be about \$15,000 - \$25,000 for a siren. Buckley recalled the special Public Safety meeting held prior to the last County Board meeting and noted that information was presented that after the original sirens were put out the communities were responsible for adding and replacing their own sirens as their communities developed. He also noted the City of Green Bay is planning on adding sirens in the next year and they have been budgeting for them. Buckley feels a resolution should be put together outlining the criteria if the County is going to start paying for sirens. He continued that the last time the County Board voted on sirens was in

2004 and it was approved that the municipalities would pick up the costs of the sirens while the County would acquire and install the sirens.

Supervisor Zima arrived at 11:09 am.

Buckley said that if a change is going to be made, it should be made for all municipalities and the County should be prepared to add a whole bunch more sirens. One of the other things Buckley was asked to bring up by a supervisor is the fact that the County just gave the Town of Morrison \$10,000 to tear down a building and acquire the property, but it is his understanding that the property has not been acquired. Clancy said that the building has been torn down, but he does not know about the property. Director of Administration Chad Weininger said that to be fair to the Town of Morrison, he did not think it was ever their intention to acquire the property, although they did make that statement publicly. Originally there was talk about Morrison acquiring the land and redeveloping it, but they later clarified that they were just going to raze the building. Weininger did not know if the property has been sold as of this time.

Supervisor Nicholson asked what the proper procedure would be to follow if the County is going to go ahead and finance sirens throughout the County. Buckley said a resolution would be necessary to set forth how the County is going to finance sirens for the communities. Weininger added that if the money is to be taken out of the general fund, it would have to go to the Administration Committee for approval through a resolution and then to the full County Board. If this is something the Committee is looking at to be county-wide, Emergency Management would need to be involved to get a dollar value and if the number is large, it may be something that can be looked at in the 2017 budget.

Public Safety Communications Director Cullen Peltier said that Interim Emergency Management Director Justin Steinbrinck did some research on this and worked with the Land Information Office to come up with some figures and the numbers of sirens that would be needed to blanket the County. Steinbrinck said GIS was able to take the ¾ mile range siren and the 1 ½ mile range siren and determine that about 128 of the ¾ mile range sirens or 60 of the 1 ½ mile sirens would be needed to blanket the entire County. The cost for the ¾ mile sirens would be approximately \$1.92 million dollars and the 1 ½ mile sirens would be approximately \$1.2 million dollars. Steinbrinck noted that there would likely be a bulk discount for this.

Motion made by Supervisor Nicholson, seconded by Supervisor Clancy to refer to Administration to have a resolution drafted and have Emergency Management provide specific figures. *Motion withdrawn.*

Supervisor Evans said he is confused as to why this would need to be sent to Administration. He said a resolution would need to be put together with dollar amounts which would come from Public Safety and from there it should go to the Executive Committee for approval. Weininger said that per ordinance, to take funds from the general fund, it would need to go to Administration Committee.

Evans asked about municipalities purchasing their own sirens. Steinbrinck answered that since 2004 the municipalities have been required to purchase and install their own sirens and the County maintains the sirens. Evans asked who would have authority over the placement of sirens if the County would decide to purchase them and it was answered that the County would be placing the sirens. Evans asked what is lacking with the current siren system. Steinbrinck stated that the vast majority of the County is currently covered and he referred to the printout contained in the agenda packet. (It should be noted that Steinbrinck brought a jump drive to show a better view of the agenda packet materials, but at the time of the meeting, the power was out at the Sheriff's Department so the jump drive could not be viewed). Steinbrinck said over 90% of the County is covered by sirens at this time. Evans asked how the 10% not covered by sirens would be reached in the event of an emergency. Steinbrinck responded that there is a wide variety of more technologically advanced options available and said that weather radios are something that they highly advertise. He said that Ready Wisconsin and Wisconsin Emergency Management feel that everyone should have a weather radio in their home or business set to alert. In addition, TV, radio and cell phones also allow the opportunity to receive alerts immediately.

Evans asked what other means the County provides to notify the uncovered 10% of the County. Steinbrinck said he was not aware of anything that the County does at this time to alert those people. Evans asked what the cost would be to cover the 10% that is currently not covered. Steinbrinck said the numbers he shared above is what would be necessary to cover the uncovered portion of the County. Evans feels the County has a responsibility to provide some

sort of warning system; however, the other issue he sees is that all of the other municipalities have purchased their own sirens. Steinbrinck said the County has not paid for any other sirens and noted that on the siren roster that he provided, sirens 36 – 61 with the exception of 2, show 24 municipality owned sirens that would potentially have to be retroactively paid back in some way which would be in the area of \$360,000 - \$480,000. Steinbrinck said he assumed that if the County starts paying for sirens in the County right now, those who have already paid for their own sirens in the last 12 years could come back to the County for reimbursement. Evans said that that would be possible, but he did not feel the County would be providing any reimbursements. Evans understands the need to provide a service and he is glad that 90% of the County is covered. He feels it would be good to start educating the other 10%, but he does not like the idea of saying all of a sudden the County will pay for a siren when all of the other municipalities have paid for their own. Evans said he will support the current motion on the floor to gather more information, but he does not know whether he would support this in the end.

Zima asked if standards would be set for who gets a siren such as a certain population density. He feels it may be more cost effective to make weather radios available to those not covered by the sirens. Zima said before the County starts buying things, there has to be some standards set. He asked about the 24 sirens that have been purchased since 2004 and it was indicated that those were all new sirens, not replacement ones. Peltier said that what typically happens is the population outgrows the siren range. New subdivisions go up and the subdivisions do not have coverage when the rest of the municipality does and that is why a lot of the sirens go up.

Zima asked what the standard was for the County to purchase sirens. Peltier said that he thought this goes back to the Cold War era and sirens were put up for alerts and warnings, in addition to tornados. He guessed that there were probably grants available many years ago to put the sirens up and noted that they are all similar in age and style. After the system was in place, it stayed static for a long time. In 2000 or so they started putting sirens up in the outlying areas like Suamcio. Peltier continued that typically the Fire Chiefs in the communities take the reins on this and get the ball rolling and work with the elected officials to get the sirens put up. Zima asked what the County's policy was and Peltier responded that he is not aware that there was any policy until 2004. He said the sirens were in place and he did not think it was the County's intent at that time to purchase sirens for individual municipalities. Peltier recalled that Suamcio had put up a siren or two about the time that Peltier came on board with the County in 2002.

Zima reiterated that a concrete policy has to be considered and asked if there are documented lives saved by sirens. He feels that sirens are kind of a technology of the past because everyone now has television and radios and he questions how useful the sirens really are. Buckley also asked if sirens are outdated technology and noted that at the special meeting it was indicated that these sirens are not meant for people to hear within their homes. Steinbrinck agreed and said that the sirens are outdoor warning sirens which are meant to be helpful if you are outside on a trail, in a farm field or somewhere where you do not have means of information gathering. The purpose of the outdoor warning siren is for people to go inside and seek further information. Zima said just taking a look around when you are outside would give a reasonable person the indication that they should go inside. He asked again if there were any documented lives saved, and Peltier said that there are some examples of sirens being helpful, but there are no concrete numbers of actual lives saved that he is aware of.

Supervisor Van Dyck said this seems to be a fiscal issue with the Town of Morrison more than anything else and providing a siren could be opening up a can of worms. He recalled that the County just gave Morrison \$10,000 for the building referred to above and now they want a siren as well. The question is what will be the next request because they do not want to raise taxes in their township for things that other townships are raising taxes to pay for.

Van Dyck also noted that he is among the 10% of County residents who are not covered by a siren, but said that when a person chooses to live in a certain place, they choose to accept certain things. For example, he has his own well and septic system and does not rely on the government to provide those things. He feels that people need to take some of their own responsibility when they choose to live in certain areas, not only in Brown County but anywhere. If you put yourself in an area outside of certain services, then you have to take efforts to buy a radio or get a cell phone or whatever the case may be.

Evans agreed with Van Dyck but he does not have a problem with someone from the Town of Morrison coming to a meeting to try to justify this. Nicholson recalled that it was said that Morrison cannot come because everyone is working and he suggested a written document. Buckley said a special meeting was held in the evening and nobody

from the Town of Morrison showed up. Evans appreciates all the other municipalities putting money aside and figuring out what they feel is important and how to pay for it. He feels that sirens are important, but noted all of the other municipalities have been putting money aside to pay for their own sirens and foregoing other projects to fund sirens, and now one township is asking for a siren when they could go out and raise taxes to get it. He agreed with Zima in that this should be held for more information, but at this time, Evans is not sold on this.

Zima feels this is more county wide than just the Town of Morrison. He said what really needs to be taken into consideration is whether the County feels this is a valuable enough service for the County to embrace the program by operating it and paying for it. Zima said it appears the municipalities feel the sirens are important enough to put them up. Evans said there is already some cost sharing on the sirens because the County maintains them. Zima said it appears that communities do want the sirens and he felt that doing something like saying what the density of an area has to be before the County provides a siren needs to be done. He asked Steinbrinck if he felt the sirens are a valuable enough tool for safety of the community or if it is more feel good legislation left over from the past. Evans agreed with Zima and feels that maybe a good way to handle this would be to send this back to Emergency Management to provide a recommendation. Zima suggested a public hearing but Evans said he would rather have the County's professionals give a recommendation on this.

Zima feels everyone should have a device in their homes to warn them of dangerous weather. Steinbrinck said weather radios can be set to an alert mode to go off 24 hours a day to give warning of intense weather. The cost of a weather radio is about \$29.99. Steinbrinck said Midland Radio usually teams up with a local TV station to increase awareness and noted that Emergency Management works hard on awareness programs during Weather Awareness Week. Steinbrinck continued that he participated in the last event and programmed many, many radios. He said weather radios typically just sit there and do nothing, but are on standby ready to alert someone when a warning is issued. Weather radios can be programmed to go off for all sorts of occurrences such as floods, tornadoes, etc. Peltier added that they have done billboards and other public outreach because it is part of their grant funding requirements and weather radios are always part of the outreach. Emergency Management pushes the weather radios as a preferred method of alert notification.

Buckley feels it may be cheaper for the municipalities to provide their residents with weather radios at a discount. Peltier said that has been done in the past and he also noted that they worked with Morrison when the siren came down to provide discounted weather radios that they sold out of the Town Hall. Peltier said the cost sharing from the municipalities is something that other municipalities around the country do.

Motion made by Supervisor Clancy, seconded by Supervisor Evans to refer to staff to come back with the most effective way to reach the communities in case of a weather alert. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Public Safety Communications

4. Public Safety Communications Budget Status Financial Report for April 2016.

Motion made by Supervisor Nicholson, seconded by Supervisor Evans to receive and place on file. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5. Director's Report.

Public Safety Communications Director Cullen Peltier noted that his department is currently down one position. They are always in the process of hiring and they are currently recruiting and will be doing some testing later in the month to keep the eligibility list up. With regard to the text to 911 project, Peltier said that phone software has been upgraded and paperwork has been submitted to the FCC to notify the cell carriers. One of the cell carriers has replied and they will begin doing some testing. A group of staff is working at putting together a policy and he did not think this should take too long. Peltier continued that the CAD project has worked its way through Public Safety Communications, Technology Services, and Risk Management and is currently at Corporation Counsel waiting for approval for the contract. Once it is approved, the project will begin in earnest and hopefully get done in a relatively quick period of time. Peltier concluded by noting that the Communications Specialist is still out and will probably be out through October. They are working through that and training additional staff which will help succession planning down the road.

Evans said that in the future he would like to see written reports from the department heads contained in the agenda packet as he finds this helpful to review prior to the meeting.

Motion made by Supervisor Nicholson, seconded by Supervisor Clancy to receive and place on file. Vote taken.
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

District Attorney

6. Discussion re: Request Judge Atkinson to review a court order seizure of a vehicle when there is a conviction of OWI/DWI and revoked license. *Held for one month for review by the District Attorney's office.*

Buckley noted this item had been held from a prior meeting. DA Lasee could not be at this meeting, but he did provide a written statement on this. Nicholson referred to earlier comments by the DA that it did not appear that the seizure of an OWI defendant's motor vehicle is allowed. He said it appears that under Wisconsin Act 100 vehicles cannot be seized but he recalled that at one time they could seize vehicles. Nicholson would like to see this changed back and questioned if a resolution to the State asking them to change this law would be appropriate and proper. Buckley said a resolution would be a starting point. Weininger added that a resolution should be drafted with a recommendation that it be sent out after the November 11 elections and a new legislative session is started. He would recommend a resolution be presented to the County Board in December so it reaches the State in January.

Nicholson feels seizure would be another tool for law enforcement to prevent future OWIs. Right now a lot of money is being spent on enforcement which Nicholson feels is a band aid. He realizes that seizure will not stop all OWIs but it will stop some and he is trying to think outside of the box to help the community have some type of safety against drunk driving. He feels there would be a substantial amount of people who would not be able to drive if their vehicle is gone but realizes there are others who will find another vehicle, but this would hold people accountable and help eliminate repeat OWIs. Nicholson feels this would be a good safety net for the public.

Evans said that although he appreciates Nicholson's intent, he will not support this. He noted that he is not pro drunk driving and he appreciates the deterrent aspect of this, but he said that he knows people who have made the mistake of driving drunk and he feels that taking their cars away would be more detrimental to their livelihood and what they are trying to do in getting back on track. Evans also noted that there are people that own numerous vehicles and he wondered how this would affect that situation. Nicholson acknowledges that some people would fall into the group that would have another vehicle available, but there are also people who would not fall into the group. Nicholson realizes that this will not stop drunk driving 100% but he is trying to come up with ways to help law enforcement as nobody else has taken a lead on this and he would like some support. He asked if drugs were found in a vehicle if the car could be seized. Sheriff John Gossage said that it would depend on the cost of the vehicle. Evans said it appears there are some arbitrary factors that are considered. He reiterated that he appreciates what Nicholson is doing, but he just does not feel comfortable with it. Zima added that he has read articles recently that say that rather than building bigger and bigger jails, treatment centers should be built to treat the drinking problem with long term programs. He does not know how to stop the problem and for people who are not habitual offenders, if you make their life so hard that they cannot support themselves, the families will suffer. Further, Evans said that there would be a lot of factors to consider such as leased vehicles and vehicles with large loans.

Van Dyck commented that he will support Nicholson out of respect to his father who had this idea a number of years ago. Nicholson thanked Van Dyck and commented that it is just a matter of common sense.

Motion made by Supervisor Nicholson, seconded by Supervisor Clancy to direct staff to draft a resolution for the State to revert back to original language to allow judges to order seizure of vehicles in OWI cases. Vote taken.

Ayes: Nicholson, Clancy, Buckley, Zima

Nay: Evans

MOTION CARRIED 4 TO 1

Motion made by Supervisor Evans, seconded by Supervisor Zima to suspend the rules and take Item 13 at this time. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7. District Attorney's Report.

**Motion made by Supervisor Evans, seconded by Supervisor Nicholson to receive and place on file. Vote taken.
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Medical Examiner

8. Update and discussion re: autopsies and the Medical Examiner's Office.

Medical Examiner Director of Operations Barry Irmen provided the Committee with updated financial reports as well as the Medical Examiner Activity Spreadsheet, copies of which are attached. Irmen reported there were 38 investigations, 12 autopsies and one external exam in May. There were also 100 cremations. Obviously one of the topics is the autopsy numbers and Irmen noted that he has been asked about this several times. He explained that when conversations were first started with Brown County, it was indicated that there would need to be about 200 cases to support a physician here and Irmen believes Brown County will be at or past that number by the end of the year. Projecting numbers off of the numbers to date, by the end of the year autopsies will probably be in the area of 180. Irmen wanted to be sure the Committee is aware of this and said that obviously the agreement that he has with Brown County will have a significant financial impact because they will be well over the number in the contract amount.

Zima feels Irmen and his staff is doing the job that the County expected them to do and there are a lot of people in the County who feel this should have been done a long time ago. He said the fact that we have our own satellite here is very appreciated by the community. Zima continued that any time there is any question about a death, an autopsy should be done. When the County went from a coroner to a medical examiner, the argument was that it would add professionalism and that slid backwards within a few years. The department was run on the cheap and the communities had the loss.

Irmen said there would be many things to think about in having a physician here. These are things that would have to be worked on with administration and some of the things to think about include whether the County buys a facility and refurbishes it, or whether the County builds a facility on land that the County already owns or buys. Irmen stated he can work on some numbers with Dane County to put a physician up here which would cover about 90% percent of the time. He said there will still need to be considerations made for vacations and some weekends and holidays where people may need to be moved to Dane County for autopsies. Zima asked if there are any pathologists in the local hospitals that could be contracted with. Irmen responded that pathologists in the hospitals are clinical pathologists, not forensic pathologists. He would also advise against using a non-Board certified forensic pathologist due to the difference in training. Dr. Vincent Tranchida added that non-Board certified forensic pathologists typically have more experience in tumor work and natural disease but they do not have as much experience and training in dealing with things such as abuse, neglect, mechanics of gunshot and stab wounds, range of fire, etc. and as a result they are a little out of their depth when it comes to testifying in these sorts of cases.

Zima asked if there was any capacity for Dane County to send a physician to Brown County to cover times when a full time physician would be unavailable for things like holidays and vacations. Dr. Tranchida said they could try to work on something like that but the biggest challenge he sees would be providing coverage for all three counties at the same time. Zima feels that as this develops more counties will be using Brown County. Irmen agreed and said there is the possibility that it could grow so much that a full-time and part-time pathologist would be needed, and, if this were the case, days off could be covered in-house. He said it would be cost prohibitive for Dane County to send a doctor up here to cover days off and holidays because they would have to backfill a doctor in Dane County.

Buckley feels it would probably be a good idea to start developing a plan on how to move forward. A plan with one doctor would be a good place to start and if Brown County becomes more of a regional type of facility, we can look at expanding even further. With regard to the investigative part, one of the big things is to be sure that the County is getting more investigations and cases are looked at more closely. Buckley asked Irmen and Dr. Tranchida to give a little history on how they have moved forward in the last six months and how things are working out. Evans would also like to hear what challenges they are having.

Dr. Tranchida responded that they started developing the office in November or December and the transition formally occurred in January. He feels that for the most part things are going well and they are receiving good feedback from partners in law enforcement and the district attorney's office and, in addition, they are getting positive comments from families and even some funeral homes. He said they have changed the standard a little bit and are trying to establish more of a medical scientific approach in accepting and releasing cases and, in addition, the workload has changed which is one of the transitions for the current staff. There has been some attrition because of the change in workload and change in expectations, but the people that have remained have been very dedicated and very committed to the transition and have been eager to take on the added responsibilities. The biggest challenge and surprise is the planned case volume versus the actual case volume. Dr. Tranchida said the actual case volume more accurately reflects the population of Brown County, Door County and Oconto County. He said Green Bay is a large, well developed community and he feels the numbers they are seeing are more of an accurate representation of what this community should expect. Dr. Tranchida hopes they have been very responsive to all of the partners and said that they listen very closely to the concerns of law enforcement, the district attorneys and the families. They take concerns very near and dear to their heart regarding whether a case is brought in for examination and he said that this is a previous issue that they have tried to solve. Dr. Tranchida continued that as time develops they will get the staffing levels resolved and noted that they are a little low on investigators in Door and Oconto Counties but they hope to have additional hires and training very soon. By the end of the year Dr. Tranchida said they should have an accurate estimate of the true numbers and whether it is cost-effective and advantageous to move forward in establishing an office here.

Buckley said part of the concerns that were raised is who is coming to the scene or the availability of consulting with the doctors being from Madison and he asked how that has been working. Irmen said he feels it is working well and as discussed initially all of the cases are being cleared with pathologists before a release decision is made. He noted that there have been a few homicides in Brown County and there were doctors with those and he feels that they worked well with the Sheriff's Department and the Green Bay Police Department on those cases. There have also been doctors up for a few other more complicated cases and Irmen does not feel the drive time has been an issue in these cases. He said when there is a homicide everything slows to a crawl so nobody misses anything. They were able to be up here for the most-recent homicide in short order and did not hold up any of the process of law enforcement.

Sheriff Gossage wished to applaud Irmen's office for what was done to assist his agency and he also noted that he is hearing from his investigators that the services being provided are like night and day of what was previously provided. Dr. Tranchida added that they are trying to make sure the new investigators and previous staff have supervision from one of the doctors or senior investigators at Dane and, in addition, all cases are cleared with the on-call doctor by phone on a case-by-case basis so there is a lot of support for the investigator on duty.

Evans referred to the attrition talked about earlier and Irmen said there has been attrition in all three counties. It was said that they will try to put on three or four part-time investigators in Brown along with three or four in Oconto and two or three in Door County. He noted that the bar has been raised significantly from what it was before and if he was an investigator getting paid x amount of dollars and now has to do additional things as part of a complete investigation, he may look at that as a reason to leave. He said that they have spent a good amount of time and resources to train people with the hopes that they will stay.

Evans asked if the standards of the forensic pathologists were not being met in the past. Irmen responded that the standards were different because there was a lay person in charge of the office. Irmen would not comment further on what was happening before and said it would be unfair for him to make a blanket statement as he has not pulled out previous records to look at. Evans said the fact of the matter seems to be that this is an important subject that is important to the people of Brown County and he wants to know if the process is better now than it was in the past. Irmen responded that the level of service that the residents of Brown County are getting is higher than it was before because there are different resources. There are forensic pathologists guiding the direction of the office and mandating policies and making sure there is no variance in the policies.

Dr. Tranchida added that no matter how good the intentions are, if you don't know what you don't know, you are working at a deficit. He continued that the previous administrations of many who work in this field are at a disadvantage when they do not have the background that a physician medical examiner comes in with. Physical medical examiners have a little more knowledge of medicine, pathology, anatomy, physiology and changes in the body

which helps them a lot in interpretation and in what they are looking for on many different levels such as natural disease, trauma, abuse, neglect, homicide and suicide. He continued that in the past it appeared that people tried to make decisions with the tools at their disposal and they are now coming to the table with more and better tools.

Irmen wanted the Committee to be aware that the transportation line of the budget is well over budget. This is the line item that pays to have a decedent moved from the scene of death in Brown, Door or Oconto County to St. Vincent Hospital if they cannot be released because the family has not made a choice for a funeral home or if the family is not present at the scene or if there is going to be an autopsy or examination. Irmen continued that there was an agreement prior to January 1, 2016 where the funeral homes were told by the Medical Examiner's office that the fee for transport would be \$150 and if the funeral home got to serve the family, the fee would be \$80. Since January, the funeral homes have been charging anywhere between \$85 - \$400 for transportation costs. Irmen said the agreement in the past was that the Medical Examiner's office would use the closest funeral home to the scene of the death and when he came up here they polled the funeral homes to see if they wanted to keep the same arrangement or go into a rotation. The funeral homes wanted to keep the same arrangement, but Irmen noted that the expense is quite high for that. Irmen said the funeral homes can charge whatever they want; the Medical Examiner's office cannot dictate what they will pay them. Irmen said an RFP for transportation services could be considered, or they can leave it the way it is or come up with some other alternative. He just wanted the Committee to be aware of this because they went over the budgeted amount in the beginning of May. Buckley asked Irmen to prepare a few different options for the next meeting including if we stay the same, what the projected costs would be or check to see if there is a max reimbursement for this that the County is willing to pay and let the funeral homes decide if they want to stay on board.

Irmen said the funeral homes that come to make a removal do not engage the family to advertise their services because this was a big complaint in the past. Another past complaint was that the decedent is left stored at the funeral home that made the removal and the family would then feel obligated to use that funeral home. In an effort to make it neutral and treat everyone fairly across the board, if the family does not pick a funeral home or there is no one there to pick, the decedent goes to St. Vincent and then the family can choose whoever they want. They do not let funeral homes engage the family in providing services when they are providing services for the Medical Examiner's office.

This will be brought back at the next meeting as an agenda item for further information.

Motion made by Supervisor Nicholson, seconded by Supervisor Evans to receive and place on file. Vote taken.
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Clerk of Courts

9. Request for representation from the Clerk of Courts and Courts to attend each meeting monthly to provide monthly updates including various reports as requested by this committee. *Standing Item.*
a. Budget Status Financial Report for April 2016.

Motion made by Supervisor Nicholson, seconded by Supervisor Evans to receive and place on file. Vote taken.
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Sheriff

10. Sheriff Budget Status Financial Report for April 2016.

Motion made by Supervisor Nicholson, seconded by Supervisor Zima to receive and place on file. Vote taken.
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

11. Budget Adjustment Request (#16-42): Any increase in expenses with an offsetting increase in revenue: Increase overtime and fringe benefits to reflect participation in the Speed Enforcement grant from Wis. DOT BOTS Office.

This request is to increase overtime and fringe benefits to reflect participating in a Speed Enforcement grant from the Wis. DOT BOTS Office. This grant is administered by the Green Bay Police Department with a pass-through to the Sheriff's Office and runs through September 2016. Increased expenses are offset by grant revenue. Similar grant programs have been provided to the County in prior years. It was not included in the 2016 budget because the WIS

DOT did not offer it when the budget was created. Revenues would be increased by \$22,000 and offset by increase in expenses of \$22,000. There is no levy effect.

Motion made by Supervisor Zima, seconded by Supervisor Nicholson to approve. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- 12. Budget Adjustment Request (#16-43): Any increase in expenses with an offsetting increase in revenue: Increase overtime and fringe benefits to reflect participation in a state Crisis Intervention Training grant passed through from Winnebago County.**

This request is to increase overtime and fringe benefits to reflect participating in a state Crisis Intervention Training grant passed through from Winnebago County. This grant pays for wages and fringes to back fill positions to cover training hours. Increased expenses are offset by grant revenue. This was a new grant in 2016 and therefore was not included in the 2016 adopted budget. Revenues would be increased by \$5,428 which would be offset by increase in expenses of \$5,428. There is no levy effect.

Motion made by Supervisor Nicholson, seconded by Supervisor Clancy to approve. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- 13. Request from Education & Recreation Committee to hire a full time deputy to service Fonferek Glen on a seasonal basis.**

Although shown in the proper format here, this Item was taken following Item 6.

Van Dyck said the reason this was put forward is because there have been some issues at Fonferek's Glen. There are a number of steps being taken to try to resolve some of the issues. There will soon be a gate placed across the park entrance to close the park off in the evening and, in addition, the County will be putting up "no parking" signs on County MM to help alleviate some of the parking issues. Van Dyck also thinks the Town of Ledgeview will be putting up "no parking" signs on the adjacent town roads and further, the parking lot is being expanded from eight spots to 54 spots. Van Dyck continued that there are problems within the park including drug and alcohol activity, particularly by youth after hours. The kids get down into the quarry which is hard to police and Van Dyck said they are working with the Park Department to consider putting on a full-time park ranger at the park, at least seasonally, to address this but he noted there is no money in the budget for this year to do that. One of the thoughts was then to reach out to the Sheriff's Department to see if they could assist with patrolling the area a little more, including increasing patrols when the "no parking" signs are put up to issue citations for people who do not follow the signs. Van Dyck feels it will take some law enforcement assistance to nip these issues in the bud and turn the tables and get the park back under control.

Assistant Park Director Matt Kriese said the park attendance has nearly tripled in the last six years. The park is being used by a lot of families which is important as the park is a very unique geological feature for the County, but it is also known to be a place to hang out among some of the schools, including as far away as Oconto. Kriese said the Parks Department does their best to get out there as often as they can, but they are spread thin like every other department. They do get out there about three times a week and walk the entire park, but as Van Dyck said, the park needs to be hit hard by law enforcement in a short period of time to get the behavior nipped.

Evans understands there are issues at Fonferek's Glen, but he is absolutely against hiring a full-time deputy to service the park on a seasonal basis and thinks it would be an inefficient use of resources. He continued that he is fully confident in the abilities of the Sheriff's Department to understand the situation that exists and utilize the resources they have to patrol the park appropriately. Evans said he has parks in his district where there have been some issues in the past. He reiterated that he has full confidence in the Sheriff's Department in managing this situation going forward and he will not support this at this time.

Nicholson asked if selling the land has ever been considered as he feels the land has been a problem ever since the County took possession of it. Kriese said that through the grant mechanism in 1991, there is a provision that the land cannot be sold.

Clancy asked if the County could put a deputy out there for one season to give the message that the County will not tolerate bad behavior and then put a park ranger out there the next year. He feels that action should be taken right now. Buckley does not believe the County has an extra deputy to put out there. Further, the cost would be in the area of \$130,000 - \$140,000 for a car and a deputy and it would end up being the most senior job so the most senior officer would be out there sitting in a squad. Buckley does not think a deputy is the best solution however; he feels that once the signs are posted, vehicles should be towed if they do not follow the signs as this would discourage the kids from coming back.

Sheriff John Gossage added that another initiative they have looked at is reaching out to the school resource officers to let the school kids know their cars will be towed if they do not follow the signs and that serious action will be taken for doing illegal things in the park. Buckley also noted that it probably was not a good idea for a deputy to be going through the park at night alone. Gossage said they have had good luck in the past with park rangers who work at Bay Shore and have access to a radio as a security presence; this is a better use of resources because the park rangers are paid less than deputies.

Zima asked what the official status of this property is. Van Dyck said it is a full County park. He explained there was only parking for about eight to ten cars, but with the expanded parking that was financed by taking funds from the Friends budget, some of the parking issues should be alleviated but the other issues will not be alleviated. Kriesie said that the parking project should be done by the end of the day. On a busy weekend there can be as many as 100 cars on the road so the additional spots will not accommodate all of the people, but it should limit the number of people in the park because there will be no parking anywhere around it. Van Dyck continued that there is private land all around the park and people are walking over private property to get into the park and then they come out by crossing over the private property again. He added that MM is not that wide and people are not able to get completely off the road so that also creates a safety hazard.

Evans asked for a specific definition of the problem that are happening at Fonferek's Glen and he would also like to know if there are any instances of park rangers being assaulted. Kriesie reiterated that the attendance has nearly tripled in the last six years at the park. Just like any park area, not everyone is there to cause trouble and he feels that the vast majority of people are there to see the geological features which are really the draw. Kriesie said that the park is where the Niagara Escarpment shows its face in the County and also said that one of the two natural arches in the Midwest is located at Fonferek's Glen. Kriesie said there are many areas for kids to get in the park and hide. There is a ravine that drops down 30 – 40 feet. Kids get down there and they are drinking and smoking marijuana and they feel safe and secure doing it because they are hidden. It is not like a city park where they can be seen. There are also problems with people trespassing on private property due to the parking issues, but Kriesie feels the "no parking" signs should help with that and will also give a tool for the Sheriff's Department to tow cars that are illegally parked. He answered Evans' question about assaults on park rangers by saying that there have been zero reports. He said there are five rangers for the entire County and none of them are dedicated specifically to Fonferek's Glen, but a ranger does get out there three times a week at various times throughout the day.

Van Dyck appreciates that this is a difficult situation to react to in a short period of time and also appreciates the cost involved with trying to do something. He feels we should give a chance to the "no parking" signs to see how they work and then come back in 60 days with a report. He also said that if something else cannot be done for summer, maybe it is something that should be proactively looked at now between the Parks Department and Sheriff's Department budget for something like deputizing a park ranger or getting someone out there on a more regular and frequent basis with more hours. He feels that if the reputation can be changed, things will improve. Now the park seems to have a reputation that it is a place for kids to go and they will continue to go until someone gets arrested or fined, and then they will decide it's not the cool place anymore and things will turn around.

Zima asked if there are "no smoking" and "no drinking" signs at the park. Kriesie said that people are allowed to drink out there if they are of legal age. It does not appear to be a family picnic place to Zima and he does not feel it should be a place where people come to hang out all day drinking beer. Evans recalled the problems were said to be underage drinking, not adults drinking. Zima noted that it is not a picnic type park and asked if the crowds are large enough that the County could run a refreshment stand. Kriesie said that on the weekends there are probably a few hundred people a day, but as far as a refreshment stand, Fonferek's Glen would not be the best park to do that at.

Zima said that he is interested in ways to cut the costs of having someone in the park and having a refreshment stand where the person could also police the park may work.

Motion made by Supervisor Evans, seconded by Supervisor Nicholson to have the Sheriff's Department and Park Department come back to the next regularly scheduled meeting to give a report as to what the Sheriff's Department and Parks Department have been doing, including patrolling the park and issuing citations. Vote taken.
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

14. Sheriff's Report.

Sheriff Gossage reported that they will be hiring six patrol deputies on June 6. There has been a massive influx of vacancies and retirements based on when the window was opened up in the past.

Gossage also said that he will be contacting the schools regarding Fonferek's Glen to get the word out as it is important to get the word out.

Motion made by Supervisor Nicholson, seconded by Supervisor Evans to receive and place on file. Vote taken.
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Circuit Court, Commissioners, Probate

15. Budget Status Financial Reports for April 2016.

Motion made by Supervisor Nicholson, seconded by Supervisor Evans to receive and place on file. Vote taken.
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Other

16. Audit of bills.

Motion made by Supervisor Evans, seconded by Supervisor Clancy to pay the bills. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

17. Such other matters as authorized by law.

Buckley said that Supervisor Evans has offered to stay on the Criminal Justice Coordinating Board if nobody has a problem with that. Nobody objected to this.

18. Adjourn.

Motion made by Supervisor Nicholson, seconded by Supervisor Clancy to adjourn at 12:44 pm. Vote taken.
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
Respectfully submitted,

Therese Giannunzio
Recording Secretary

BUDGET STATUS REPORT

Brown County
Medical Examiner
Budget Status Report

	Amended Annual Budget	YTD Actual	% Used/ Received
Personnel Costs	276,235	89,910	32.5%
Operating Expenses	643,662	60,831	9.5%
Property Taxes	308,757	102,919	33.3%
Intergovernmental Revenue	130,020	43,618	33.5%
Public Charges	481,120	150,849	31.4%

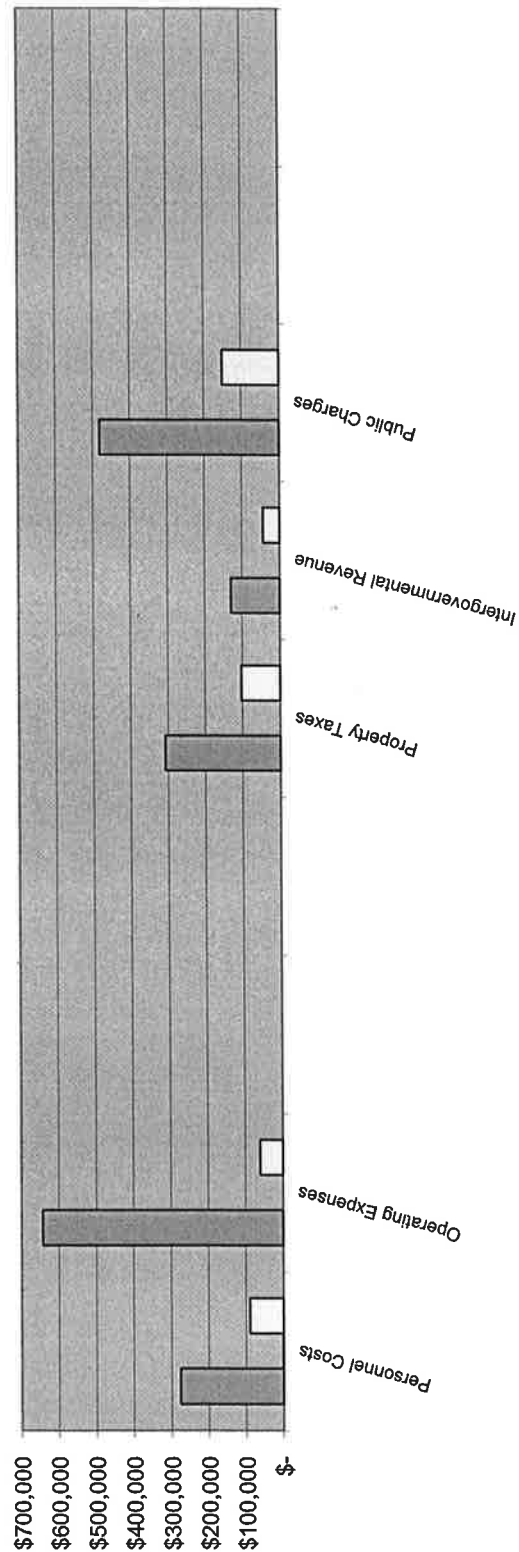
HIGHLIGHTS:

Expenses:

Revenues:

Medical Examiner - April 2016

■ Amended Annual Budget
□ YTD Actual





Budget by Account Classification Report

Through 04/30/16

Prior Fiscal Year Activity Included

Summary Listing

Account Classification		Adopted Budget	Budget Amendments	Amended Budget	Current Month Transactions	YTD Encumbrances	YTD Transactions	Budget - YTD Transactions	% used/ Rec'd	Prior Year Total
Fund 100 - GF										
REVENUE										
Property taxes		308,757.00	.00	308,757.00	25,729.75	.00	102,919.00	205,838.00	33	153,328.00
Intergov Revenue		130,020.00	.00	130,020.00	10,783.60	.00	43,618.31	86,401.69	34	81,247.66
Public Charges		481,120.00	.00	481,120.00	27,172.00	.00	150,849.00	330,271.00	31	330,970.71
Miscellaneous Revenue		.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	+++	.00
Other Financing Sources		.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	+++	.00
REVENUE TOTALS		\$919,897.00	\$0.00	\$919,897.00	\$63,685.35	\$0.00	\$297,386.31	\$622,510.69	32%	\$555,546.37
EXPENSE										
Personnel Costs		276,235.00	.00	276,235.00	20,095.40	.00	89,910.35	186,324.65	33	344,337.40
Operating Expenses		643,662.00	.00	643,662.00	21,539.15	.00	60,830.73	582,831.27	9	274,681.33
EXPENSE TOTALS		\$919,897.00	\$0.00	\$919,897.00	\$41,634.55	\$0.00	\$150,741.08	\$769,155.92	16%	\$619,018.73
Fund 100 - GF Totals										
REVENUE TOTALS		919,897.00	.00	919,897.00	63,685.35	.00	297,386.31	622,510.69	32	555,546.37
EXPENSE TOTALS		919,897.00	.00	919,897.00	41,634.55	.00	150,741.08	769,155.92	16	619,018.73
Fund 100 - GF Totals		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$22,050.80	\$0.00	\$146,645.23	(\$146,645.23)		(\$53,472.36)
Grand Totals										
REVENUE TOTALS		919,897.00	.00	919,897.00	63,685.35	.00	297,386.31	622,510.69	32	555,546.37
EXPENSE TOTALS		919,897.00	.00	919,897.00	41,634.55	.00	150,741.08	769,155.92	16	619,018.73
Grand Totals		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$22,050.80	\$0.00	\$146,645.23	(\$146,645.23)		(\$53,472.36)

2016 Brown County Medical Examiner Activity Spreadsheet

	Investigations	Autopsy	External	Cremations	Suicides	Homicides	MVA	Other Acc	Natural	Undet	Pending
January	65	13	0	116	3	0	2	1	47	0	8
February	59	13	1	105	4	0	2	4	49	0	7
March	52	14	0	113	2	0	0	6	44	0	9
April	51	16	1	114	4	1	0	6	40	0	8
May	38	12	1	100	6	1	0	3	22	0	4
June											
July											
August											
September											
October											
November											
December											
Totals	265	68	3	548	19	2	4	20	47	0	36

Previous Years	Investigations	Autopsy	External	Cremations	Suicides	Homicides	MVA	Other Acc	Natural	Undet	Pending	Hospice
End of May 2015	436	22	11	469	10	2	7	41	379	0	0	234
End of May 2014	395	17	17	447	17	3	4	31	332	0	0	257

Previous Years	Investigations	Autopsy	External	Cremations	Suicides	Homicides	MVA	Other Acc	Natural	Undet	Pending	Hospice
2015 Totals	1096	69	42	1160	37	5	18	70	965	0	6	604
2014 Totals	1019	50	40	1118	34	5	9	82	885	2	0	613

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